

his dim lantern and look at his fellow men and the plain facts in the light of the noonday sun, he would recognize that the small circumference of his tub had circumscribed his comprehension and the smoky lantern had obscured his vision.

As the duties and rights of every individual in every community are so interrelated and interdependent, it is obvious that all must comply and co-operate with wise Health Laws to make them effective for the protection of all.

Man himself is the chief source from which diseases are spread. All hygienic laws that leave the individual to do as he pleases in vital matters are futile.

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Help the propaganda for reform by prescribing official preparations. The committees of the U. S. P. and N. F. are chosen from the very best therapeutists, pharmacologists, pharmacognosists and pharmacists. The formulae are carefully worked out and the products tested in scientifically equipped laboratories under the very best conditions. Is it not plausible to assume that these preparations are, at least, as good as those evolved with far inferior facilities by the mercenary nostrum maker who claims all the law will allow?

Many physicians who have sent to the Collector of Internal Revenue \$1.00 in payment of re-registration from January to July, under the new Revenue Act, will be surprised to have this dollar returned with the request that they forward \$1.50. The new license fee for a physician is \$3 a year or \$1.50 for the half year, and it was assumed that the 50 cents already paid on the old license would be credited to the new. However, the Treasury Department has decided not to do this but to demand the full fee for the period mentioned without regard to any previous fee paid.

The United States Supreme Court, five to four, has sustained the constitutionality of the Harrison Anti-narcotic Act in so far as it relates to criminal prosecution of registered persons for violation of the Act. Many constitutional lawyers had thought that the Supreme Court would consider the Harrison Act a police measure masquerading as a revenue bill and, therefore, an infringement on the constitutional rights of the individual States. The Supreme Court, however, held that Congress has the right to pass any revenue measure it pleases and to make such regulations as it sees fit, it being assumed that these regulations are made for the purpose of preventing fraud upon the revenue. It was held that the Court has no right to question the ulterior motives of Congress but must assume that the measure is a revenue measure, pure and simple.

The court specifically decided that a registered physician is not privileged to give away or sell 500-1/6 grain heroin tablets except to a registered person upon the presentation of a requisition properly signed. It also held that a licensed physician is not privileged to give or sell an addict a like quantity of narcotic for the purpose of preventing bodily discomfort and satisfying the craving. It likewise held that a physician is not privileged to write a prescription containing a narcotic for an addict in order to satisfy the craving of such addict unless the addict be a bona fide patient taking a bona fide cure, and such a prescription cannot be filled by a pharmacist, and if a pharmacist knows that such a prescription is given for the purpose of satisfying the craving and fills that prescription, the physician and he are guilty of conspiracy. In any case, the physician writing such a prescription is liable to criminal prosecution. It has been not uncommon for an addict to request a physician to undertake a cure and to ask that the physician provide him with a small quantity of narcotic while he is being prepared. According to this decision the physician is liable to criminal prosecution if he does this. He must see that the patient begins

the cure at once and he must see that it is a bona fide cure.

The Hygienic Laboratory, Federal Public Health Service, has investigated a number of complaints regarding the toxicity of American Arsphenamine (Salvarsan 606). It was found toxicity in practically every case reported was due to the use of a solution too concentrated or given in too short a time. At least 30 cc. of solution should be allowed for each 1/10 gram Arsphenamine and at least two minutes for the intravenous injection of each 30 cc. This means for the full dose of 6/10 grams at least 180 cc. of solution and twelve minutes for its administration. There is no objection to making the solution somewhat more dilute and taking a slightly longer time to give it.

Conference on Hospital Standardization

(Century Club, San Francisco, April 7, 1919.)

ADDRESS BY FATHER MOULINIER.

In a forceful and convincing address, Charles B. Moulinier, S. J., called attention to the inescapable duties of the medical profession and the public, in making possible a "hundred per cent. of modern medicine" for every patient who enters a hospital. He pointed out that this movement for elevating the standards of hospitals is equal in importance to that which has raised the standards of medical education in this country. The interests of the public can be safeguarded only by improving medical education and by bringing hospital organization to a high degree of efficiency. Every link in the chain of modern hospital organization must be strengthened, the system of records, the hospital staff and the clinical laboratory. Only in this way can the patient receive a "hundred per cent. of modern medicine."

In the achievement of this laudable purpose, the public must help. The patient who is unable to pay for the most thorough medical examination and treatment is nevertheless entitled to such service. It, therefore, becomes the duty of the public to aid in the maintenance of the hospital which serves them.

ADDRESS BY DR. BOWMAN.

Dr. J. G. Bowman, Director of the American College of Surgeons, spoke on Hospital Standardization as it is understood and meant by the College. He pointed out the existence, here and there, of hospitals which had no laboratory nor roentgen service, no system of records, still less an adequate one, and no check of any kind on the work that was done. In such a hospital a practitioner without conscience or professional morals could easily take advantage of his patients, and he instanced one hospital in which a large number of uterine curetages were done, with no laboratory examination of the curetings.

A survey of such hospitals, done in a spirit of helpfulness, so that the faults may be undone and then corrected, would be a notable public service. It would make such hospitals come up to standard, so that patients going there could count on a minimal residence with maximal results. A proper set of records would show this, and such a hospital would be able to compete with the best for public approval and support. A working man to whom time and the permanence of result count perhaps most, could go to such a hospital confident that a hernia operation, for instance, would heal without infection and that the result would have the best expectancy for permanence, etc.

Dr. Bowman urged particularly the responsibility of the directors, who presented the hospital to the public, for the character of the men and work of the place, and begged that this should be frankly